

river. It took many hours. They came back, did their report, and he laid down on his bunk. He had an ingrown toenail that hurt every step he took. So he is lying on his bed and he said, "Here is why I am so lucky. A medic came by, looked at me, looked at my foot, and he said you have gangrene poisoning; we have to get you out of here."

They took him out and he said: How lucky I was I was not in battle that day—when half of his companions were killed.

He also talked about preparing for another battle. He is getting ready to do this. He is a private; he may have been a corporal, I don't really remember. He said a sergeant came to him and he said: "INOUE, report to the colonel." He doesn't know what is wrong. He goes, reports to the colonel. The colonel says very curtly: "You have to meet with the General today." He said the only reason he would know of to meet with the General was a court martial, because that is what everybody thought. So he goes to headquarters. He sees the General. The General tells Senator INOUE: "I am promoting you to be a lieutenant." It was a battlefield promotion. But he said: "I was lucky. I was lucky I became an officer but," he said, "I was lucky I was not in the fight that day because we also had huge losses."

When he was scheduled to come back to America—another one of his lucky experiences—they had a transport plane to take him back. His arm is gone by then. He is told we don't have room for another litter, for another patient on the airplane. You can't go. He of course was disappointed. The plane crashed and killed everybody on the plane.

So DAN INOUE was a person who considered himself lucky. Those of us who knew Senator INOUE consider ourselves lucky, just being able to know the man.

After Hawaii received its statehood in 1959, DAN INOUE served as its first Congressman. Three years later he was elected to the Senate, and he was a soft but powerful voice for the people of Hawaii ever since.

There are many personal courtesies he extended to me that I will never forget. It may not seem like much, but I was scheduled to be in Florida and I promoted this—I was a new Senator—and the great Senator INOUE was going to be there. I got a call from Henry Giugni. Most of us who served here knew him. He used to be Sergeant at Arms. For a long time he was Senator INOUE's chief of staff. He said, "I checked his schedule and it's his wife's birthday and he is not going to be able to go." I said I understand that.

Within an hour I got a call from Senator INOUE. He said Millie understands that totally. He said we will celebrate the birthday the day after tomorrow, when I come back. He was someone who was so self-sacrificing for other Senators.

As Senator INOUE's colleague from Hawaii, Senator AKAKA, said last night:

His legacy . . . can be seen in every mile of every road in Hawaii, in every nature preserve and every facility that makes Hawaii a safer place. He fulfilled his dream of creating a better Hawaii.

He was a strong supporter of the University of Hawaii, a strong supporter of George Washington University Law School. He got his bachelor's in Hawaii, his law degree at George Washington. He was a determined representative of this Nation's fighting men and women, a long-time leader of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

As I mentioned briefly last night, there has been, in my many years in the Congress—I have been here as long as my friend the assistant leader here who is seated next to me today; we have been here 30 years—there has been no one I have ever known in my 30 years who did more and fought more for the fighting men of this country. He believed that the Nation's commitment to the members of his Armed Forces did not end with their service.

For fear it would be lost, and it should not be lost, I want to spread on the RECORD what this good man did at a prayer breakfast a couple of months ago. I can't remember if the Presiding Officer was at the prayer breakfast, but I know my friend the assistant leader was there. Senator INOUE had never, ever in his 50 years in Congress spoken at a prayer breakfast, but he decided to come. He had great vigor until just recently. He campaigned in this last cycle. He traveled to Alaska to help Senator BEGICH a few months ago. He campaigned in Nevada, in Arizona, all over the country. He had great vigor. But he came to the breakfast and talked to us about his experiences.

When he was a boy, he never, ever had a gun. That was not anything people did in Hawaii. So he was surprised after he got in the Army that he was such a great shot. He was the best—the best. As a result of that he became a sniper in the European theater. With great humility he explained he could remember killing his first person. He could remember they were trying to take a farm house and they shot a bazooka into it and he rushed in and there was a man there. The man reached in his pocket. Of course Senator INOUE thought he was reaching for a weapon, and the man was killed. And INOUE saw that he was reaching for a picture of his family. He said he came to the realization at that time that he was not killing enemy soldiers, he was killing other human beings.

Although he had to continue doing what he did, he ended his presentation by saying, "I know exactly how many people that I killed." He said, "A lot of people go to bed at night counting sheep. Even though I am an old man, I go to bed at night many times counting people."

He was somebody who, as a result of his experiences, voted against war from then on. He did not support the Vietnam War, Iraq War 1 and 2, Afghanistan—even though he made sure that

these people had all the supplies they needed, our military force. They are the greatest fighting force in the world. A lot of that is directly attributable to Senator INOUE.

Talking about bipartisanship, he lived that. He was a fine Democrat. He was a progressive Democrat and was proud of that. But he never hesitated to cross over and work with other Senators. The best example of that was Senator Stevens, who was killed in an airplane crash fairly recently in Alaska. Hawaii and Alaska—these two fine men representing the two newest States in the Union, became like brothers. That is the truth.

It is really a shame that DAN is not with us anymore. He was never afraid to speak out against discrimination and was an important advocate for Native Hawaiians and Asian Pacific Islanders. He was the Chair of the Indian Affairs Committee. Prior to that time, with all due respect to all the other Chairs, it was not a committee people knew much about. Senator INOUE made that committee a powerful committee. He traveled the country receiving all the accolades from these tribes that had never been recognized, that had never had someone who became their advocate—and he was. He put the Indian Affairs Committee on the map.

He served as chairman of the Commerce Committee, the Appropriations Committee, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the first Chair of the Committee on Intelligence. He served as a member of the Watergate Committee and was chairman of the Special Committee Investigating the Iran-Contra Affair. I repeat, this man has been one of the greatest Senators in the history of this great country.

He had a deserved reputation as a bipartisan bridge builder. He always put his country first and his party second. In 1968 Senator INOUE gave a memorable keynote speech at the Democratic National Convention. He spoke eloquently of the country's struggles with racism at a time of deep division. He also spoke from the heart. This is part of what he said:

I wish to share with you the most sacred word of Hawaii. It is aloha. To some of you who visited us it may have meant hello. To others aloha may have meant goodbye. But to those of us who have been privileged to live in Hawaii, aloha means I love you. So to all of you, my fellow Americans, aloha.

That is what he said those many years ago. So today it is with a heavy heart that those of us who loved Senator INOUE say "aloha" to a great man, a legend of the Senate. His final, dying word was "aloha." He did not mean goodbye. He meant, "I love you." Senator INOUE, I love you.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half.

The time for morning business has been extended until 12:30.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois.

REMEMBERING DANIEL K. INOUE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I see my two colleagues from Connecticut on the Senate floor. I know they are here to speak about the horrible tragedy in Newtown last Friday. I will abbreviate my remarks on the floor, and I commend both of them for extraordinary statements last night at a memorial service. I will never forget some of the things they shared with us about this terrible tragedy.

I come to the floor this morning for a few moments to pay tribute to one of my great friends and one of my great colleagues, DANNY INOUE, who passed away yesterday. The majority leader has done such an extraordinary job recounting his life, and I think back to what it must have meant to him as he witnessed Pearl Harbor at the age of 20. He said that he realized at the time that the pilots in those planes that were bombing his family and others in Hawaii were people of the same ancestry as his father, and it hurt him. It hurt him as well to be branded as suspect because of his Japanese origin and to see literally tens of thousands of Japanese Americans interned in camps because their loyalty was questioned.

He took the opportunity to volunteer and serve our Nation to prove his loyalty and that he was willing to risk his life for America. He served in one of the most highly decorated units in all of World War II, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which was comprised of Japanese Americans who fought in the European theater. They recently came to Washington to be honored. Senator INOUE was there, and it was a great moment to see these men of the "greatest generation" who have proven to America their love for this country, and none more so than DANNY INOUE.

Senator REID has recounted in detail the incredible story of his bravery that earned him the Congressional Medal of Honor, but he was such a humble man. When we look back on his life, there were so many aspects of it that were historic in nature, and one would never know it in conversations with him or working with him.

Senator REID had the same experience I did. I visited Senator INOUE's office, and it was unusual by Senate standards. I looked across the office, and there were no pictures of DANNY INOUE on the walls, and there were no

awards for this man who served more than half a century in Congress.

I said to him: It is interesting that your office has a lot of artwork and photos but nothing about DANNY INOUE.

He said: No, I didn't want to put those things up. I wanted everyone to feel at ease coming in here. I didn't want to talk about my party affiliation or what I had done. I want them to feel comfortable and to know this is a welcoming office.

That is the kind of person he was. Time and again, he proved it.

He started off in the territorial House of Representatives in Hawaii. When Hawaii became a State, he served in the Congress and later in the U.S. Senate. He was there from the beginning, and what a dynamic leader he was for his State of Hawaii. He did so many great things over the years.

I was at the same Prayer Breakfast Senator REID recounted. There was one other story he told, which I will only refer to in the most abbreviated form. He talked about his experience as a sniper and how he still had in his mind the images of those enemy soldiers he shot down. After 50, 60 years, he could not get those images out of his mind.

He talked about befriending one of his fellow veterans in the Michigan veterans hospital. He told me this great story he shared at the Prayer Breakfast. He said that when he was an officer, he would spend his weekends in the great city of Chicago at the Knickerbocker Hotel. He said that was the hotel for officers.

He said: I would come into Chicago and have a great time on the weekends and head back to the veterans hospital.

Well, he finally talked one of his fellow Hawaiians—a man whose face had been literally burned off—into joining him on one of his trips to Chicago. The man was embarrassed by his appearance and didn't think anybody would want to be around him or talk to him. DANNY INOUE prepared all of these different places where they would stop in during their visit, and every one of them greeted Senator INOUE and his friend in a warm fashion.

The story goes on from there, and I won't go into the details, but he was a man who always looked to help someone else. He talked about how this man who had been so brutally injured in the war returned to Hawaii, raised a family, and was DANNY INOUE's friend for life, as so many of us were.

I think back as well to Senator Robert C. Byrd's funeral in West Virginia. It was one of the hottest days I can remember. We were up there baking in the sun at this memorial service for Robert C. Byrd. I intentionally picked a seat next to DANNY INOUE. I had to take off my jacket. I was mopping the perspiration off, and I looked at him in his dark suit without a bead of sweat.

I said: How do you do that?

He said: Well, you know, the Asian religions are very important in my life, and they believe mind over matter can

achieve great things. I can visualize myself sitting in a deep freeze now, and I am not hot at all.

I thought, this man is amazing in so many different ways. When he is done with his life, those stories—some serious, some lighthearted—will reflect so well on this man and what he meant.

One of the most important things I have on my agenda is the passage of the DREAM Act. I have worked on it for 11 years, and there was a time on the floor of the Senate—September 21, 2010—when I could not break the Republican filibuster on the DREAM Act, and I was pretty despondent over it. Senator REID came to the floor and said a few kind words about my efforts, but then out of nowhere Senator INOUE sought recognition. He knew that I was trying to get for millions of these young people living in America a chance to serve their Nation, prove their love, and become legal citizens in America. I will read what he said because it touched me. He said:

Madam President, I wish to step back in history, if I may. On December 7, 1941, something terrible happened in Hawaii—Pearl Harbor was bombed by the Japanese. Three weeks later, the Government of the United States declared that all Japanese Americans, citizens born in the United States or of Japanese ancestry, were considered to be enemy aliens. As a result, like these undocumented people, they could not put on the uniform of this land.

Senator INOUE went on to say:

Well, I was 17 at the time, and naturally I resented this because I loved my country and I wanted to put on a uniform to show where my heart stood. But we were denied. So we petitioned the government, and a year later they said: OK, if you wish to volunteer, go ahead.

Senator INOUE said:

Well, to make a long story short, the regiment I served in, made up of Japanese Americans, had the highest casualties in Europe but the most decorated in the history of the United States.

He turned and said:

I think the beneficiaries of the Senator from Illinois—

And the DREAM Act—will do the same.

It was the type of short statement that in a few words captured his life, his sacrifice, and what he had proven by risking his life for this country. There is a reason we honor him this morning.

I close by saying two things. First, Senator AKAKA came to the floor last night—his colleague of so many years—and put in a few words. He said on the floor last night:

Tomorrow will be the first day since Hawaii became a State in 1959 that DAN INOUE will not be representing us. He really worked to shape Hawaii and this great country.

He went on to say:

You will be missed in Washington as much as you will be missed in Hawaii. Rest in peace [Senator INOUE].

That was DANNY AKAKA's farewell tribute, and it summarizes how much he meant to Hawaii and how much he meant to America. His last word: